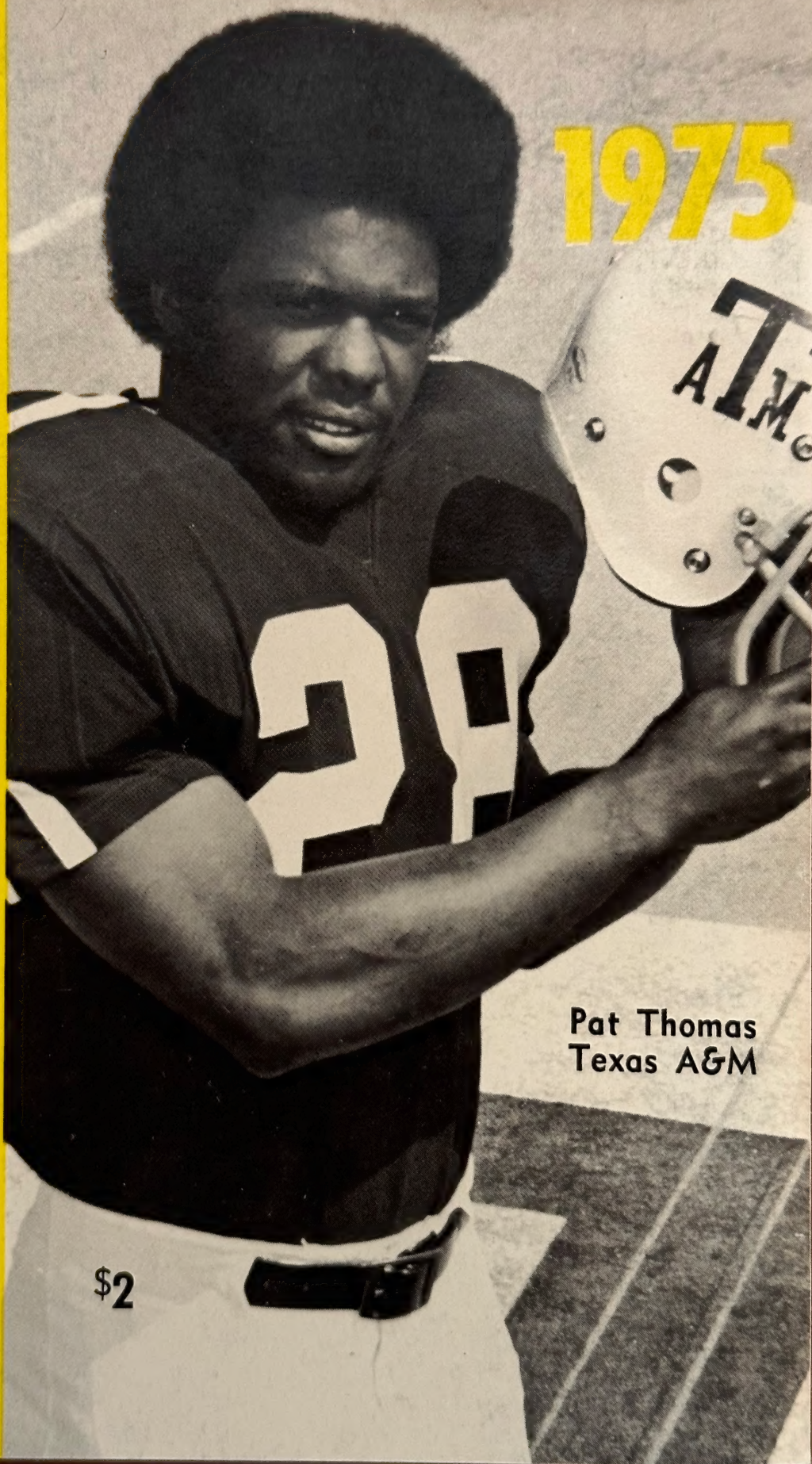


Official COLLEGIATE

FOOTBALL Guide

1975



Pat Thomas
Texas A&M

\$2

halves of a superb kicking game, Tom Skladany and Tom Klaban.

Michigan has missed undisputed Big Ten titles and all the accessories that go with them by the few inches that kept last-minute field goal attempts from beating Ohio State the past two seasons. The defense that made those near misses possible isn't likely to be any easier to deal with this fall.

MICHIGAN STATE, A LATE SEASON UPSET winner over Ohio State, could pull a repeat and be either a disaster area or No. 1 by midseason. The Spartans open against Ohio State, then play Miami of Ohio, North Carolina State, Notre Dame and Michigan.

Finding the leading independent in the Midwest is never very taxing. But Dan Devine, who has succeeded Ara Parseghian at Notre Dame, may have trouble finding an offense to replace the one Parseghian used in 1974.

The Mid-American Conference may at last have played its way out of its reputation as a "nice little league that is better than a lot of people think it is."

Miami of Ohio stretched its unbeaten steak to 23 games, beat Georgia in the Tangerine Bowl and ranked 10th in the country last year. The Redskins, who generally knock off one Big Ten team a year, can double their pleasure in '75 as they take on Michigan State and Purdue in early games.

ALABAMA HAS WON FOUR SOUTHEASTERN championships in a row, a record it expects to extend. But there is one streak Bryant would rather shatter. His teams have been to eight straight bowl games without winning one.

Included among the players Bryant refers to as the most physically gifted he's seen are quarterback Richard Todd, too many running backs to count and a defense that could have all-Americas fighting each other for position.

If preseason estimates are accurate, scoreboards will have to be re-wired for heavy duty all around the SEC.

Florida, which won eight games a year ago, has its backfield intact.

Georgia will score big points. So will Tennessee, even though Condredge Holloway won't be back to pass, run and skitter opponents to death.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS, 1924-74

For the third season in the last five, the wire services selected two teams to share the unofficial national championship in 1974. Oklahoma was voted the champion in the Associated Press (writers) poll, although on NCAA probation. Southern Cal, after edging Ohio State in the Rose Bowl, was voted the champion in the United Press International (coaches) poll. The coaches had voted not to consider teams on probation.

It was Southern Cal's sixth national championship since 1924. Only Notre Dame has more, with nine.

Southern Cal coach John McKay now has won or shared four national crowns—in 1962, 67, 72 and 74. This ties him for the lead with Alabama's Bear Bryant, Notre Dame's Frank Leahy and Minnesota's Bernie Bierman.

1974—Okla., So. Cal	1962—Southern Cal	1949—Notre Dame	1936—Minnesota
1973—N. Dame, Ala.	1961—Alabama	1948—Michigan	1935—SMU
1972—Southern Cal	1960—Minnesota	1947—Notre Dame	1934—Minnesota
1971—Nebraska	1959—Syracuse	1946—Notre Dame	1933—Michigan
1970—Nebraska, Texas	1958—LSU	1945—Army	1932—Michigan
1969—Texas	1957—Auburn, Ohio St.	1944—Army	1931—Southern Cal
1968—Ohio State	1956—Oklahoma	1943—Notre Dame	1930—Notre Dame
1967—Southern Cal	1955—Oklahoma	1942—Ohio State	1929—Notre Dame
1966—Notre Dame	1954—Ohio St., UCLA	1941—Minnesota	1928—Southern Cal
1965—Ala., Mich. St.	1953—Maryland	1940—Minnesota	1927—Illinois
1964—Alabama	1952—Michigan State	1939—Texas A&M	1926—Stanford
1963—Texas	1951—Tennessee	1938—TCU	1925—Dartmouth
	1950—Oklahoma	1937—Pittsburgh	1924—Notre Dame